

DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW FISHES.

BY ALEXANDER MORTON, CURATOR OF THE TASMANIAN
MUSEUM.

GENUS EURUMETOPOS, n. g.

Seven branchiostegals. Single row of villiform teeth. The spinous dorsal continuous with the soft, and composed of nine spines, operculum having a soft, fleshy point. Scales ctenoid. Tasmania.

Eurumetopus, Johnstonii, nov. sp.

B, 7; D, 9 1-9; A, 3-13; V, 1-5 P.

Length of head, 4; of caudal, 4 2-3; of pectoral, 4 1-5; height of body, 12-3 in the total length. *Eyes*.—Diameter, 4 1-4 of the length of head; interorbital space convex; upper profile of the head convex; jaws nearly equal, maxilla, with a few small denticulations in front, reaching in a line to the centre of the orbit. *Teeth*.—A single row of villiform teeth in the jaws, about the 16th of an inch. *Fins*.—Dorsal commences in about a line with the base of the vertical; spines short and strong, the first the shortest, the fifth and sixth being the longest. Pectoral nearly as long as the head, ending in a line with the 4 dorsal ray. Anal commences opposite the seventh dorsal ray, the two first spines being very short, hardly perceptible, the anal ending in a line with the anterior part of the soft dorsal, Ventrals short and strong, caudal deeply forked. All the vertical fins with minute scales. Scales finely ctenoid. approaching to cycloid. Total length 3 feet 3 inches.

This very remarkable Fish was found washed on the beach at Bridgewater. Unfortunately the crows had eaten a great part of one side, taking the eyes and the intestines out. I was therefore unable to examine the internal parts. On a recent visit to Sydney the specimen was carefully examined by Mr. J. Douglas Ogilby, the Assistant Zoologist at the Australian Museum, but he was unable to place it in any genus. I have therefore formed a new genus for it. It bears in many respects a close resemblance

to the *Oligorous*, though in the *Oligorous* the teeth are more numerous, and not in a single band, as in this species. I have great pleasure in giving this very remarkable genus the specific name of *Johnstonii*, in honour of R. M. Johnston, Esq., F.L.S., whose very valuable works in all matters relating to the Natural History of Tasmania and the Geological features of the Island place him as the foremost scientist in Tasmania.

GENUS TRIPTERGIUM, Risso.

Body not very elongate, covered with rather small or with scales of moderate size. Snout of moderate extent, jaws with a band of villiform teeth; teeth on the palate. Three dorsal fins, the two anterior spinous, the middle one longest. Ventrals jugular, with two soft rays. Six *Branchiostegals Pseudobranchiae*.

European, New Zealand and Australian Coasts and Rivers.

Triptergium Clarkei, nov. sp.

B, 6; D, 3, 16-11; A, 23; P, 15; L, 26; L. trans, 3-8.

Length of head, 3 and 3-5; height of body, 5 of the total length. Eyes large, 1-3 of the length of the head; head convex, a small tentacle at the nostril; lateral line very distinct, terminating in a line with the eighth ray of the third dorsal; numerous small punctures about the head; head scaleless. Villiform teeth, several of the upper jaw being larger than the lower ones. Total length, 3 inches.

Locality: Clarke's Island. Mr Maclaine.